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Docket No.: 08228/1203278-US4
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Letters Patent of:
Sharon Flank et al.

Patent No.: 6,944,611

Issued: September 13, 2005

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DIGITAL
MEDIA MANAGEMENT, RETRIEVAL, AND
COLLABORATION

Certificate

NOV 1 0 2005

of Correction

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.322 AND 37 CFR 1.322

Attention: Certificate of Correction Branch
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Upon reviewing the above-identified patent, Patentee noted several Patent Office errors which should be corrected.

The following errors were not in the application as filed by applicant:

In the Application:

First Page Col. 2 (Abstract), Line 17, Delete "longed" and insert - - logged - -.

Column 2, Line 12, (Approx.), After "6,125,236" delete "," and insert --.--.

Column 2, Line 15, (Approx.), After "5,875,446" delete "," and insert --.--.

Column 2, Line 29, (Approx.), After "1993" delete "," and insert --.--.

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11/09/2005 WABDELR1 00000051 6944611

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Column 2, Line 51, (Approx.), After "task" delete "," and insert --.--.

Column 2, Line 51 (Approx.), Delete "it" and insert -- It --.

Column 8, Line 17, (Approx.) Delete "Natural Language Search Incorporates:" and insert -- Natural language search incorporates:--.

Column 13, Line 46, (Approx.) Delete "WYS/WYG" and insert -- WYSIWYG --.

Column 13, Line 66, After "platform" delete "37".

Column 13, Line 66, Insert --"-- before "helper".

Column 14, Line 52 (Approx.) Below "a PDA version:" insert -- [t1] --.

Enclosed please find marked up copies of page 2 of the Abstract, pages 3, 12, 21 & 23 of the Specification.

The following errors were found in the application as filed by applicant. The errors now sought to be corected are inadvertent typographical errors, the correction of which does not involve new matter or require reexamination.

Column 9, Line 40 (Approx.), After "try" delete ":"and insert --;--.

Column 9, Line 44 (Approx.), After "try" delete ":" and insert --.--.

Column 12, Line 37 (Approx.), Delete "lowestterm" and insert -- lowest term --.

Column 12, Line 49 (Approx.), Delete "then" before "uses".

Transmitted herewith is a proposed Certificate of Correction effecting such amendment. Patentee respectfully solicits the granting of the requested Certificate of Correction.

NOV 1 4 2005

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to $300.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100. Enclosed please find a check for $100.00.

Dated: November   , 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By _____

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   Registration No.: 53,970
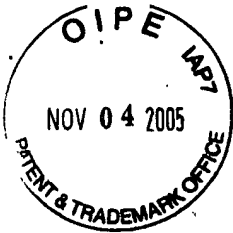DARBY & DARBY P.C.
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NOV 1 4 2005

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Page _1_ of _1_

PATENT NO.   :   6,944,611

APPLICATION NO. :   10/063,413

ISSUE DATE   :   September 13, 2005

INVENTOR(S)   :   Sharon Flank et al.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In the Application:

First Page Col. 2 (Abstract), Line 17, Delete "longed" and insert - - logged - -.

Column 2, Line 12, (Approx.), After "6,125,236" delete "," and insert --.--.

Column 2, Line 15, (Approx.), After "5,875,446" delete "," and insert --.--.

Column 2, Line 29, (Approx.), After "1993" delete "," and insert --.--.

Column 2, Line 51, (Approx.), After "task" delete "," and insert --.--.

Column 2, Line 51 (Approx.), Delete "it" and insert -- It --.

Column 8, Line 17, (Approx.) Delete "Natural Language Search Incorporates:" and insert -- Natural language search incorporates:--.

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Column 9, Line 40 (Approx.), After "try" delete ":"and insert --.--.

Column 9, Line 44 (Approx.), After "try" delete ":" and insert --.--.

Column 12, Line 37 (Approx.), Delete "lowestterm" and insert -- lowest term --.

Column 12, Line 49 (Approx.), Delete "then" before "uses".

Column 13, Line 46, (Approx.) Delete "WYS/WYG" and insert -- WYSIWYG --.

Column 13, Line 66, After "platform" delete "37".

Column 13, Line 66, Insert --"-- before "helper".

Column 14, Line 52 (Approx.) Below "a PDA version:" insert -- [t1] --.

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Amend the Abstract as follows

A system stores digital media records and has a search engine searching the stored digital media records. The system receives first search requests from a plurality of first users. The system performs, by the search engine, searches based upon the first search requests, yielding respective first search results, each first search result defining first selected digital media records. The first search results are logged. Information is received from the first users indicative of subsequent actions by the first users selecting particular ones of the selected digital media records. A second search request is received from a second user. A search is performed, by the search engine, based upon the second search request, yielding respective second search results, the second search results defining second selected digital media records. The second selected media records are then ranked differently, for example upward or downward, based upon the logged first search results. ~~The software according to the invention incorporates a glossary management tool that makes it easy for each client to customize terminology to the needs of a particular business. With this tool, termed a glossary manager, a company can customize a number of feature names in the system to provide a more familiar context for their users. A system administrator can also customize the manner in which "thumbnail" or "preview" images are presented. The system performs clustering on search queries, and searches media records multi-modally, using two or more approaches such as image searching and text searching. An administrator can tune search parameters. Two or more streams of metadata may be aligned and correlated with a media file, facilitating later searching. The system evaluates itself. It folds popularity information into rankings of search results.~~

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Pat. Nos. 5,251,316 and 6,125,236. Past approaches for searching multimedia include U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,243,713 and 5,794,249.

[0007]   Clustering is well known, for example in U.S. Pat. No. 5,317,507, 5,758,257, 5,675,819, 5,778,362, and 5,875,446. See also Buckley, Chris, J. Walz, M. Mitra and C. Cardie, "Using Clustering and Super Concepts within SMART: TREC 6" (http://trec.nist.gov/pubs/trec6/t6_proceedings.html); Zamir, Oren, O. Etzioni, Madani, and Karp, KDD "Fast And Intuitive Clustering Of Web Documents;" and Koller, Daphne, and Mehran Sahami, ML "Hierarchically Classifying Documents Using Very Few Words." Rankings relating to relevance are discussed in U.S. Pat. No. 5,642,502.

[0008]   The evaluation of information retrieval systems became an essential part of the field in the early '90s, and was strongly advanced by the TREC evaluations designed at NIST beginning in 1993. The TREC evaluation contains different tracks, but the tracks all share the following common features:

[0009]   • They are designed to provide a comparative evaluation between different systems, usually provided by different participants.

[0010]   • The evaluation is done using strict test conditions that contain a set of queries, a collection of documents, and relevance judgements.

[0011]   • The evaluations use evaluation scores such as precision and recall that supposedly predict real users' satisfaction from a system.

[0012]   While these evaluations are indeed helpful in comparing the performance of different IR systems, they do not provide constant feedback on the performance of a live IR system. The base performance of an IR system could be at first evaluated using a standard measurement such as the one above, but as more media files are added to a system and users submit queries in an uncontrolled manner, it is hard to predict or estimate the performance of the system. In addition, if the system does not fall into the initial TREC evaluation tracks, it is necessary to develop an independent test case -- a very costly task. It is desirable to have a better self-evaluation system for such a digital asset manager.

[0013]

    Known annotation-related systems are discussed in U.S. Pat. No. 5,600,775,

vocabulary lists and be sure not to deviate. Sometimes tools can be built to aid in this process, depending on the size of the controlled vocabulary. Similarly, tools can also be provided to searchers to control their search requests. However, controlled vocabulary systems do not scale beyond a few thousand terms, since it is impractical to look up every word in English for every search. For broader retrieval systems, for faster cataloguing, and for simpler searching, a different approach is superior.

[0055]   In addition to standard keyword and Boolean searching, the system software incorporates additional advanced technology for locating stored files. Rather than limiting searching to a controlled vocabulary, the system software includes natural language search, which allows cataloguers and users to employ any words in English (or whatever natural language the retrieval system is using).

[0056]   Natural language search incorporates:

[0057]   • a semantic network of concepts

[0058]   • additional linguistic techniques, including:

[0059]   • phrase matching

[0060]   • derivational morphology, in lieu of stemming

[0061]   • part of speech tagging

[0062]   • name recognition

[0063]   • location recognition

[0064]   *User-tunable Search Parameters.* The system according to the invention provides a screen for customers to adjust search parameters, to reflect their company use of stored media file collections. This is shown in Fig. 3. While the parameters may themselves be well-known in a searching system, what is emphasized here is that the user (or, more likely, an administrator) can be granted access to such fundamental decisions about search as:

[0065]   (a) how good a match has to be before it is displayed to the user, e.g. 50%, and

[0066]   (b) how "creative" the search should be, i.e. how much should the search terms be

annotations, or mark-ups, of full motion digital still images, video frames, or other indexed data structures. The viewer, preferably accessible on a personal computer with a Web browser, serves as a helper application for the underlying application of the system according to the invention. The viewer allows users to view and mark up (comment on) media on a separate, see-through lightweight layer. The viewer supports annotations that are created and rendered so that they appear overlaid on the related media. Position, size, frame number, and other attributes of annotations are saved in a separate annotation file, and when played back the annotations appear at the saved location and with the saved attributes. Preferably, to the greatest extent possible, creating and editing of annotations is be done in WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get) fashion. This is illustrated in Fig. 5.

[0125]   The annotations may consist of text, graphics, and digitized audio, and are stored separately from the original file information. An indexing scheme relates individual annotations to individual video frames. On full motion video playback, the annotations are displayed on the originally annotated frames. One central part of the system according to the invention is the use of a downloadable, view-only application, which enables users who do not have the full power to create annotations nonetheless to be able to view annotations created by others.

[0126]   In an exemplary embodiment, files are stored centrally. Preferably the viewer provides security, e.g. SSL, server authentication, and proxy authentication. The underlying application according to the invention powers the full lifecycle of digital media from content collaboration, deep storage, search and retrieval using a natural language search and the ability effectively to move bandwidth-intensive media over the Web. The software is preferably Web-based.

[0127]   The viewer is a standalone, platform"helper" application that is normally launched by a Web browser, from a specific link on a Web page that is part of the Web server of the system according to the invention. The viewer has the ability to upload annotation data back to the Web server. Except for the two actions of launching and uploading, the viewer does not require any network connection with the Web server or the Web browser.

[0128]   The current viewer in the system according to the invention on a PC or Macintosh

[0141]   PDA (or handheld or wearable) version of the viewer builds on the same general architecture. The server generates a simple XML annotations file, sends it to the client (i.e. the viewer via the Web browser), and handles the returned HTTP messages from the viewer.

[0142]   The following annotation types are desirably supported on a PDA version:

[t1]

Annotation types

Type	Attributes
Freehand drawing (pen)	Line width, Color
Transparent text	Font name, Font size, Font color
Sticky note	Font name, Font size, Font color, Background color
Sound	Audio data

[0143]   In this way, the system according to the invention supports the full life cycle of media; allowing organizations to expedite the process of searching, collaborating and distributing of digital assets, such as imagery, video files, pictures and text documents. Users desirably have the freedom to collaborate anywhere at anytime using the annotation viewer according to the invention on a PDA. Users are preferably able to annotate video and still images with a virtual pen, sticky note, text and even voice using a wireless modem. Annotations are preferably capable of being added, edited, moved, or deleted.

[0144]   A PDA-based digital media management solution takes digital delivery and collaboration to the next level by eliminating the need of a traditional PC and Ethernet connection. In addition, users no longer need to carry laptops to stay up to date on work involving video or still images.

[0145]   Preferably the viewer supports both HTTP authentication and Proxy authentication. As an option, the viewer displays a login dialog where the user can enter a user ID and password to be used for authentication. Since the viewer is activated and closed
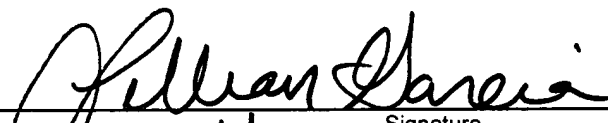
Application No. (if known): 10/063,413   Attorney Docket No.: 08228/1203278-US4

Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. _EV692134002-US_ in an envelope addressed to:

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on   November 11, 2005
             Date

_____
               Signature
       Lillian Garcia
_____
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